

APPENDIX – SPECIFICATION MARKED TO SHOW CHANGES

CROSS REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent No. 09/046,503, filed on March 23, 1998 and U.S. Patent No. 08/928,951, filed on September 12, 1997, ~~which are hereby incorporated by reference, and claims the benefit of International Application PCT/US98/18926 filed September 10, 1998, all of which are incorporated by reference.~~

APPENDIX – CLAIMS

MARKED TO SHOW CHANGES

1. (Amended) A computer-implemented method for ordering an item using a client system, the method comprising:

displaying information identifying the item at the client computer system;

receiving from a user an indication of a recipient to whom the ordered item is to be delivered;

displaying an indication of an action that is to be performed by the user to order the item; and

in response to the indicated action being performed, sending to a server system an indication that the item is to be ordered and the indication of the recipient to whom the ordered item is to be delivered

whereby when the server system does not have sufficient information for the indicated recipient to deliver the ordered item, the server system obtains additional information from one or more external information sources other than the user that is sufficient to deliver the ordered item to the indicated recipient.

13. (Amended) A computer-implemented method for ordering an item, the method comprising:

sending to a client system instructions to display information identifying the item, to input an indication of a recipient to whom the item is to be delivered, and to send the indication of the recipient to the server system when an indicated single action is performed; and

after the indicated single action is performed,

receiving the indication of the recipient from a user of the client system;

determining whether the server system does not have sufficient information for the indicated recipient to deliver the ordered item; and

when the server system does not have sufficient information, obtaining additional information from one or more information sources other than the user that is sufficient to deliver the ordered item to the indicated recipient from one or more information sources that are external to the server system.

23. (Amended) A computer-implemented method for ordering an item using a client system, the method comprising:

displaying information identifying the item at the client computer system;
receiving from a user an identifier of a group of one or more recipients to whom the ordered item is to be delivered, the identified group having an indication of each recipient in the group;

displaying an indication of an action that is to be performed by the user to order the item; and

in response to the indicated action being performed, sending to a server system an indication that the item is to be ordered and the indication of each recipient in the group to whom the ordered item is to be delivered

whereby when the server system does not have sufficient information for an indicated recipient to deliver the ordered item, the server system obtains additional information from one or more external information sources other than the user that is sufficient to deliver the ordered item to the indicated recipient.

35. (Amended) A method in a computer system for coordinating the delivery a gift given by a gift giver to a recipient, the method comprising:

receiving an order from the gift giver, the order identifying a gift to be delivered to the recipient and having contact information describing the recipient;

storing the received order in an order database along with an order tracking number;

sending a communications to the recipient based on the contact information, the communications requesting delivery information for the gift, the communications

including the order tracking number so that the recipient can include the order tracking number in a responds to the communications for identification of the stored order;

when the recipient does not respond to the communications, collecting additional delivery information for the gift based on the contact information from sources other than the gift giver;

when potential delivery information for the gift has been identified, verifying whether the potential delivery information is valid; and

when the delivery location has been verified as being valid,

sending the gift in accordance with the delivery information; and

notifying the gift giver that the gift has been sent to the recipient.

42. (Amended) A method in a computer system for coordinating delivery of a gift from a gift giver to a recipient, the gift and recipient being specified in a gift order, the method comprising:

determining whether the gift order includes sufficient information so that the gift can be delivered to the recipient;

when sufficient information is not provided in the gift order, obtaining delivery information from one or more information sources other than the gift giver; and

when sufficient delivery information can be obtained from the additional information sources so that the gift can be delivered to the recipient, directing the gift to be sent to the recipient as indicated by the deliver information.

53. (New) A method in a computer system for coordinating the delivery a gift given by a gift giver to a recipient, the method comprising:

receiving an order from the gift giver, the order identifying a gift to be delivered to the recipient and having contact information relating to the recipient;

storing the received order in an order database in association with an order tracking number;

identifying an electronic mail address for the recipient using the contact information received from the gift giver;

sending an electronic mail message to the recipient based on the contact information, the message requesting delivery information for the gift, the message including the order tracking number so that the recipient can include the order tracking number in a response to the message for identification of the stored order;

when an electronic mail message that responds to the electronic mail message sent to the recipient is received from the recipient and the received message has sufficient delivery information,

retrieving the order tracking number and the delivery information from the received electronic mail message;

retrieving from the order database the order associated with the retrieved order tracking number;

directing delivery of the gift of the retrieved order in accordance with the retrieved delivery information; and

sending an electronic mail message to the gift giver indicating that the gift is being delivered to the recipient; and

when an electronic mail message that responds to the electronic mail message sent to the recipient is received from the recipient but the received message does not have sufficient delivery information or when no electronic mail message is received, sending an electronic mail message to the gift giver, the message indicating that the gift cannot be delivered to the recipient and including the order tracking number so that the gift giver can include the order tracking number for identification of the stored order in a response to the message that provides additional contact information.

54. (New) The method of claim 53 wherein the identifying of an electronic mail address includes accessing one or more web sites for locating the electronic mail address of the recipient.

55. (New) The method of claim 53 including:

upon receiving the additional contact information, sending an electronic mail message to the recipient based on the additional contact information, the message requesting delivery information for the gift, the message including the order tracking number so that the recipient can include the order tracking number in a response to the message for identification of the stored order.